

Date

DRAFT

Addressee

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Dear (marina owner or harbormaster):

Contra Costa Environmental Health is conducting a survey regarding the disposal of sewage from boats berthed in marinas, tied to the Bay-Delta shoreline, or traveling in the waterways adjoining Contra Costa County.

The Environmental Health Division receives complaints periodically about boats, especially houseboats, which are disposing of sewage into the waters of the marina where they are berthed or to the shoreline where they are moored. The Sheriff's Delta Patrol investigates some of these complaints, and this office attempts to respond to citizen complaints when asked to do so. Some elected officials have expressed concern about the matter, and one Supervisor has drafted a County Ordinance provision to address the perceived problem.

The staff of the Environmental Health Division need to know more about the marina situation in order that we may give appropriate advice to the County's elected officials and other decision makers. Accordingly, we are planning to conduct a survey of sewage disposal and water supply practices at the marinas operating in Contra Costa County and its cities. This survey would apply both to boats, including houseboats, and to fixed facilities such as restaurants and restrooms. Prior to beginning any field survey, we would first like to offer you the opportunity to assist us by providing the necessary information requested on the enclosed questionnaire. Information received via these questionnaire forms should minimize the need for field verification and save time for all concerned.

The principal purpose of the survey is to determine if boats berthed in your marina, as well as those operating in the Bay-Delta, have reasonable access to sewage pumpout facilities and if these facilities are being used. A secondary purpose is to determine, for those marinas without pumpout facilities, whether they are connected to community sewers or are dependent upon onsite sewage disposal systems (e.g., septic tanks and leach fields) for its fixed facilities. If they are not sewered, does the onsite disposal system have sufficient capacity to accept the additional sewage that would be generated from a pumpout facility if it were to be constructed. A third objective is to determine if the marina is dependent upon wells for its water supply and, if so, whether such wells might be affected by onsite sewage disposal.

The State of California Department of Boating and Waterways has grant money to assist in the construction or renovation of vessel pumpout and dump station (see enclosed brochure). If you have an interest in applying for these grant funds, please let us know so that a member of the Environmental Health Division staff may assist you in the application process.

If you have any questions about this matter, please call Terry Stumph at 646-5225 x242 or (staff person) at----- . If we do not hear from you within 30 days, a staff member will contact you

to arrange an onsite survey. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kenneth C. Stuart, M.S.E.H, R.E.H.S.  
Director of Environmental Health

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Enclosures

C.C. William Walker, M.D., Director, Health Services  
Phil Batchelor, County Administrator  
Warren Rupf, Sheriff  
Board of Supervisors

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MARINA SURVEY FORM

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_
2. Address \_\_\_\_\_
3. Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_
4. Owner \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_
4. Harbormaster \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_
5. Number of Berths \_\_\_\_\_ Occupied \_\_\_\_\_ Permanent \_\_\_\_\_ Itinerant \_\_\_\_\_  
Hookups: Water \_\_\_\_\_ Electricity \_\_\_\_\_ Sewage \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Vessels \_\_\_\_\_ Live-a-board Vessels \_\_\_\_\_  
Houseboats \_\_\_\_\_ Floating Homes \_\_\_\_\_
6. Permitting Agency(s): BCDC, Corps of Engineers, County \_\_\_\_\_  
Related Permit Conditions \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Number vessels equipped with Marine Sanitation Devices or porta-potties (if known):  
Type I \_\_\_\_\_ Type II \_\_\_\_\_ Type III \_\_\_\_\_ Porta-potties \_\_\_\_\_
8. Sewage pumpout facility available \_\_\_\_\_  
Operational \_\_\_\_\_ Pumping Cost \_\_\_\_\_  
Description/location \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Marina Facilities:  
Restaurant \_\_\_\_\_ Bar \_\_\_\_\_ Public Restrooms \_\_\_\_\_ Showers \_\_\_\_\_

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Campground with hookups \_\_\_\_\_ #Sites \_\_\_\_\_ Dump Station \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel Dock \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

11. Marina sewage disposal facilities(sewer/septic tank/description/location) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Maximum number of people served by sewage disposal system(daily) \_\_\_\_\_

13. Can marina sewage disposal system handle sewage from a vessel pumpout facility? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Marina's water source \_\_\_\_\_

15. If from a well, location/depth/construction with respect to sewage disposal system \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

16. Attach marina map showing above facilities \_\_\_\_\_

17. Prepared by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_